With more than half of the world’s population living in urban centres – a number increasing by 180,000 every day – urban sanitation is a global priority. Many developing cities rely predominantly on on-site sanitation facilities, which often do not comply with building standards and are rarely emptied. Where emptying does take place, it is often unsafe and illegal dumping is common, resulting in huge environmental and health risks. SNV’s Urban Sanitation programmes focus on city-wide access to improved sanitation, as well as access to services that ensure safe emptying, transport and treatment of human waste. Our partners include: the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, DFID, DFAT, WSUP, local and national authorities and water and sanitation service providers.

SNV conducted pilots of a rapid technical assessment to set up scheduled desludging in Indonesia and Bangladesh.

SNV’s Demonstration of Pro-poor Market-based Solutions for Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) programme in Bangladesh is working to reform the way that human waste is managed in Bangladesh.

The FSM programme will enable 1 million people to gain an improved living environment and access to safe faecal sludge management.